

**Minutes of the Grinnell City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 6, 2005**

The City Council of the City of Grinnell met in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Grinnell Community Center, 927 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Grinnell, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 6, 2005. Mayor Canfield presided.

Roll Call:               PRESENT:   White, Elliott, Worley, Witt.  
                              ABSENT:     Wilson, McNaul.

**PERFECTING AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to approve the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Elliott, Witt. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A.    Previous minutes as drafted from the Monday, August 15, 2005 Regular Session.
- B.    Approval of the Class LC Liquor License Renewal for Rabbitt's Tavern, 725 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- C.    Approval of the Class BC Liquor License Renewal for Casey's General Store #1134, 1718 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- D.    Approval of the Class LA Liquor License Renewal for Grinnell College, 1303 Park Street.
- E.    Approval of the Class LC Liquor License Renewal for Grinnell College, 1011 Park Street.
- F.    Approval of the request submitted by the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce for use of public streets for the Grinnell High School Homecoming Parade on Thursday, September 29, 2005.
- G.    Establish the hours for Trick-or-Treat for Monday, October 31, 2005 from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- A.    In regard to the pool painting project.

Mayor Canfield opened the public hearing in regard to the pool painting project at 7:01 p.m. Hage noted that no comments or objections were received prior to the meeting. Mayor Canfield requested comments and objections from the citizens present. There were none.

Behrens commented that due to the packets not being mailed timely, no action should be taken on this item.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WHITE, to close the public hearing at 7:02 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, White, Witt, Worley. Motion carried.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to reschedule the public hearing for Monday, September 19, 2005 at 7:00 pm accepting bids until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 15, 2005 for the pool painting project. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Worley, Witt. Motion carried.

## APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

Moved by WHITE, second by WITT, to pay all bills where funds are available. Roll Call: Ayes: White, Witt, Worley, Elliott. Motion carried.

## COMMUNICATIONS/COMMITTEE MINUTES:

- A. Finance Committee: August 15, 2005
- B. Public Works and Grounds Committee: August 18 and 22, 2005
- C. Public Safety Committee: August 25, 2005
- D. City Council Special Session: August 25, 2005
- E. Stewart Library: August 22, 2005
- F. Tourism: June 15 and August 17, 2005
- G. Tourism: June Financials.
- H. Miscellaneous Correspondence: Dan Johnson – Resignation from the Board of Adjustment.

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- A. Report from the Finance Committee.
  - o Review of the lease for the Physical Education Complex at Grinnell College.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to approve the renewal of the lease for the Physical Education Complex at Grinnell College. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Witt, Worley. Motion carried.

- o Discussion in regard to the 2006 health insurance renewal.

White updated the council that the renewal is still under negotiation, however a final recommendation will be proposed in mid-October. Witt was concerned over the sharp reductions for first year contracts. Behrens stated coverage will now be bid every year to keep pricing competitive. He explained that even taking an increase in the second year will still have us ahead of where our current cost is today. White commended the work of Bernie Lowe and Associates for the quality of work they have completed for the city. The renewal date for the city policy is December 1, 2005.

- o Review of the agreement proposed by Poweshiek County in regard to polling place accessibility.

White stated that the city continues to work with the county in regard to the improvement to the doors for the purpose of voting. Elliott commented that the contractor who will be completing the installation has determined it will take approximately 12-13 weeks to complete the project. The current doors are compliant with all standards; however this will greatly improve accessibility. The doors included in the project are the Veteran's Memorial entrance, the entrance to the gymnasium at the Community Center and the entrance to the Recreation Department at the Community Center. The new precincts will be implemented with the school election in September, 2005. The county will be receiving grant funding from the state to reduce the cost. The remaining cost will be split equally between the city and county.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to approve the use of the Community Center and Veteran's Memorial Building as consolidated precincts through the year 2007. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Worley, Witt. Motion carried.

- Review of the requests for assistance from the Campbell Fund.

The requests were approved as presented.

B. Report from the Planning Committee.

- Discussion in regard to Ward Precinct Boundaries due to recent land annexations.

Worley commented that the committee reviewed how the newly annexed territories impacted the wards of the city. The property has been determined to be included with the third ward and because there are no residences, it does not unbalance the population of the ward. Future annexations proposed for the third ward were determined to not have an impact the population balance of the wards.

- Discussion in regard to the proposed voluntary annexations for Highway 146 South.

Staff provided an update that two property owners are ready to proceed. A third property owner will be prepared to annex following January 1, 2006.

C. Report from the Public Works and Grounds Committee.

Elliott commented in regard to the grand opening of the compost facility.

- Approval of the Application and Agreement for the Use of Highway Right of Way for Utilities Accommodation submitted by Mediacom.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve the Application and Agreement for the Use of Highway Right of Way for Utilities Accommodation submitted by Mediacom. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White. Motion carried.

- Review of the agreement proposed by Watertower Paint and Repair in regard to completion of the annual maintenance services.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve the agreement proposed by Watertower Paint and Repair in regard to completion of the annual maintenance services.

Worley questioned if the city built a new water tower if this agreement would be transferred to the new facility. Elliott explained that the construction schedule for the new tower will not be accelerated and therefore should not impact this contract.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, White, Worley. Motion carried.

- Review of Change Order No. 2 in regard to the Central Business District.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2844: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 WITH MANATT'S CONSTRUCTION OF BROOKLYN, IOWA FOR AN INCREASE TO THE CONTRACT COST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,329.00 FOR THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

PROJECT.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White. Motion carried.

- Review of Pay Request No.6 in regard to the Central Business District.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2845: “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR’S PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 6 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350,171.29 TO MANATT’S INC. OF BROOKLYN, IOWA FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION PHASE 1.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, White, Worley. Motion carried.

Elliott commented that 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue is now open to traffic.

- Review of Pay Estimate No. 2 (Final) in regard to the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Paving Project.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2846: “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CONTRACTOR’S PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 2 (FINAL) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$127,388.16 TO TK CONCRETE, INC. OF PELLA, IOWA FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE PAVEMENT REPLACEMENT.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White. Motion carried.

- Acceptance of work completed on the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Paving Project.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve an adopt Resolution No. 2847: “RESOLUTION ACCEPTING WORK –10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE PAVEMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, White, Worley. Motion carried.

- Approval of the Easement Agreement in regard to the construction of the AWOS.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2848: “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN AN EASEMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVATION SYSTEM AT THE GRINNELL REGIONAL AIRPORT.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White. Motion carried.

- Review of the request submitted by POW I-80 in regard to closure of the south half of Main Street and/or a portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue on October 8, 2005 from 12:00 – 8:00 pm for a concert featuring the band Just William.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to approve the request submitted by POW I-80 in regard to closure of the south half of Main Street and/or a portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue on October 8, 2005 from 12:00 – 8:00 pm for a concert featuring the band Just William at the latest possible time. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, White, Worley. Motion carried.

- Review of the request submitted by Eric and Mandi Rees in regard to the request for waiver of construction of sidewalk.

Elliott reviewed the request for the waiver of construction of a sidewalk. The property contains three lots; however the house has been built on the lot located furthest to the north. Another garage/building will be constructed on the southern lots. The committee

recommends requiring the Rees's to construct sidewalk on the northern lot where the house is located, the rest of the sidewalk be constructed when the other buildings are built, and that the city construct the sidewalk on the remaining lot to the north that is not owned by the Rees's. Elliott did not feel that the city should consider waiving the requirement all together due to the location of the property near the schools and the municipal pool. Worley agreed with the compromise however was confused why the city would pay for the installation of sidewalk on property not owned by the city. Elliott stated that installing the sidewalk is due to the past waiver that had been granted that is now being rescinded. White suggested that the city partner with the Rees's due to the offering made to the property to the north. Elliott reminded White that new construction requires sidewalk and the city is providing the opportunity to phase the construction.

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to grant a partial waiver to the Rees's until such time that south lots are developed, deny the variance for the lot they occupy, and the city will construct the remaining links.

White proposed an amendment to the motion that the city will pay 50% of both the north lot sidewalk and the southern two lots when constructed. Worley seconded the amendment. Elliott state she was concerned about the amendment due to the implications to future requests that will be. Roll Call Vote on the amendment: Ayes: White, Worley, Elliott, Witt. Amendment approved.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Witt, Worley, White. Motion carried.

Rees commented that the south lot is going to require ground work before they can construct their building. Alliant will have to re-set all of the gas mains due to the current poor location. This work will have to be completed prior to the sidewalk being installed.

- Discussion in regard to the Park Plan.

The park plan will be discussed at the next regular meeting of the committee.

- Review CIP projects – Parks/Bike Trails.

Elliott reviewed that staff has proposed improvement projects for the parks including upgrades to the shelters and bike trail extensions.

- Discussion in regard to a food composting site.

Staff will continue to work on this project during the winter months.

Elliott reviewed the proposal to the name the alleys and a dumpster beautification contest. This idea was suggested as an effort to generate interest and excitement in the downtown during the construction. The downtown merchants are willing to participate. The project will need to move forward as quickly as possible due to the timeline of the Central Business District project. Alley names must be submitted by September 15, 2005. Categories will be established for the dumpsters. The dumpster contest will conclude during the Homecoming celebration. The mayor will appoint the committees.

D. Report from the Public Safety Committee

- Review of the results of the speed study of Highway 146 and Highway 6.

This item was tabled by the committee.

- Review the request submitted by St. Francis Manor/Seeland Park in regard to a traffic study including 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Penrose Street and Highway 6 and Penrose Street.

White informed the council that the results of the study did not require the city council take any action.

- Review of the proposed agreement between Grinnell Regional Public Health, Poweshiek County Emergency Management Commission and the City of Grinnell for the purpose of defining a relationship and roles in regard to communication equipment placed in the Emergency Operations Center.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to approve the agreement between Grinnell Regional Public Health, Poweshiek County Emergency Management Commission and the City of Grinnell for the purpose of defining a relationship and roles in regard to communication equipment placed in the Emergency Operations Center. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Worley, Witt.

- Review of the Poweshiek County Joint Task Force.

The police department is currently in the process of working with the county to develop a joint task force. The task force will invite all county agencies as well as agencies neighboring Poweshiek County to participate. A 28E agreement will be proposed in the future. Some training has been implemented, however no action will be taken until a formal agreement is in place.

- Discussion in regard to the ambulance service fees.

Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2849: ““A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN SERVICE AGREEMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AMBULANCE SERVICE.” Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Witt, Elliott. Motion carried.

- Discussion in regard to current fire equipment and personnel fees.

Sicard has proposed a new fee structure. This proposal will be incorporated into the update fee manual.

- Discussion in regard to Knox Box requirements.

White explained that a Knox Box provides a universal key to allow access to buildings in the event of an emergency. Only the Fire Department would have access to the box and the key. City code provides for the Fire Chief to require their installation. He would enforce this requirement on businesses that currently have connection to the city fire alarm panel. The cost of the box is \$200.00. This item remains under review.

- Discussion in regard to the incoming fire alarm panel.

The panel is in need of updating; however prior to the completion of any improvements, the city would like to take control of the panel to insure its operation and control. The panel is currently managed by a private contractor.

- Consider options for the noon whistle.

An option was presented for modifying a tornado siren to sound over the noon hour. The old siren would require several changes and relocation to be operable. The tone could be adjusted to sound differently than an emergency siren. The committee will report on this item again at a later date.

- Review of the request for the construction of a memorial at the Public Safety Building.

The suggestion has been proposed to allow the construction of a granite monument at the Public Safety Building to honor both fire fighters and police officers who have lost their lives while serving the community. The cost of the monument is estimated at \$5,000.00, however it would be shared by the police association, the volunteer fire fighters and the city. The city's contribution would come from capital loan notes. The monument will be able to be moved in the event of construction of a new public safety building.

Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to support the proposal for construction of a memorial at the Public Safety Building. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Witt, Elliott.

- Review of correspondence received from the Volunteer Fire Department in regard to support of the construction of a new Public Safety Building.

White explained that during the committee session, Member Wilson requested a timeline be established for the construction and funding for a new building. He felt the city should pursue the implementation of local option sales tax. He suggested the city begin seeking to hire an architect after the first of the year.

- Review of the "Drug Demand Reduction Program/eliminate DARE program-Grinnell Middle School."

The program is being updated and management of the program will now be handled by the National Guard. The school has approved the curriculum and the police department will continue to be a partner in the program.

#### E. Mayor's Committee Appointment Recommendations:

There were no appointments at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

#### FINL READING OF THE ORDINANCE:

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WORLEY, to conduct the final reading of Ordinance 1255: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE "MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF GRINNELL, IOWA BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO CHAPTER 13, SECTION 13-508 (PARKING RESTRICTIONS.)" *This ordinance will enact no parking on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue from East to Elm Streets except on Sunday, parking will be allowed on*

*the south side.* Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Elliott, Worley, Witt, White. Motion carried.

#### FIRST READING OF THE ORDINANCES:

Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to conduct the first reading of Ordinance No. 1256: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF GRINNELL, IOWA BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO CHAPTER 13, SECTION 13-506 (FOUR-WAY INTERSECTIONS ENUMERATED; OBSERVANCE.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Witt, Elliott. Motion carried.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to conduct the first reading of Ordinance No. 1257: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE " MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF GRINNELL, IOWA BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO CHAPTER 13, SECTION 13-508 (PARKING RESTRICTIONS.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Worley, Wit. Motion carried.

Moved by WHITE, second by ELLIOTT, to conduct the first reading of Ordinance No. 1258 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE " MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF GRINNELL, IOWA BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO CHAPTER 8, SECTION 8-2 (FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION – Fire alarm monitoring panel; installation and use.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Elliott, Worley, Witt. Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by WORLEY, second by WHITE, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2850: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Lakeside Acquisition, 929 Broad Street.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Worley, White, Witt, Elliott. Motion carried.

Moved by WORLEY, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2851: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Rick and Mary Kading, 501-519 Washington Avenue.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Worley, Witt, Elliott, White. Motion carried.

Moved by WHITE, second by WITT, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2852: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (Gerald D. and Nadine A. Allen, 301 Pearl Street.)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Witt, Elliott, Worley. Motion carried.

Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2853: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (James and Beverly Foster, 1601 Penrose Street)" Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Elliott, Witt. Motion carried.



Moved by WHITE, second by WORLEY, to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2854: "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS SUBMITTED FOR PROPERTY AND REQUEST TAX EXEMPTION FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT ACCORDING TO CHAPTER 404 OF THE STATE CODE (SYMBO, L.L.C., Pine Ridge Estates.") Roll Call Vote: Ayes: White, Worley, Witt, Elliott. Motion carried.

INQUIRIES: None.

#### REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

Behrens commented in regard to the relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina. There was discussion in regard to Grinnell accepting refugees from the disaster. Following the next week, there is potential that some people may move to Iowa. The relief agencies have requested money and not materials at this time. They have requested that people work directly through county emergency management for a coordinated effort. Rotation of workers may require an additional call for assistance. Dan DeMott is the county coordinator and can be contacted at 236-2650. Contributions should be made to the Iowa River Chapter of the Red Cross. Please note on your contribution that it is for Hurricane Katrina relief. Matherly strongly discouraged people from donating to blind phone calls or door to door solicitations.

#### ADJOURN:

Moved by ELLIOTT, second by WITT, to adjourn this regular session of the Grinnell City Council at 8:31 pm. Vote: (4) ayes, motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Gordon Canfield, Mayor

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Cassandra R. Hage, City Clerk